

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

May 2011 – Week 2

Air Date: May 8 – May 14 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: A DARK PAGE IN TEXAS HISTORY

MAY 1930 AND ONE OF THE DARKEST DAYS IN TEXAS HISTORY BEGINS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

MAY 9TH 1930. SHERMAN. BLACK FARMHAND GEORGE HUGHES IS ON TRIAL FOR THE RAPE OF A WHITE WOMAN. TENSION EXPLODES AS AN ANGRY MOB STORMS THE COURTHOUSE AT NOON.

INSIDE, TEXAS RANGERS MOVE HUGHES TO A FIREPROOF VAULT. AT 2:30 RIOTERS TORCH THE COURTHOUSE. BY 6:30 NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS SENT BY GOVERNOR DAN MOODY ARE BEATEN BACK. BY MIDNIGHT, MORE THAN 5000 RIOTERS WATCH AS HUGHES IS TAKEN FROM THE VAULT, HUNG FROM A TREE AND BURNED.

ONLY TWO RIOTERS WERE CONVICTED – NEITHER ONE FOR MURDER.

MOB RULE ERUPTED IN SHERMAN 81 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

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Nolan Thompson, "SHERMAN RIOT OF 1930," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/jcs06>), accessed May 03, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

"Statement from Frank Hamer on the Sherman Riot," *Governor Moody Online Exhibits* (<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/governors/personality/moody-hamer-1.html>), accessed May 03, 2011. Published by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

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